



Office of Addiction Services and Supports

OASAS. Every Step of the Way.

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

CHINAZO CUNNINGHAM, MD
Commissioner

Treatment Equity Council Overview

January 20, 2023

General Background

- Passed Senate and Assembly
- Signed by Governor
- Chapter amendments
- BHSAC
- Additional BHSAC members
- By-laws
- Report



Definition: Vulnerable Population

Vulnerable Population shall mean those who have experienced injustices and disadvantages as a result of their race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status, age, socioeconomic status and/or any other status which has caused a person to experience injustices and disadvantages.



Definition: Racially and ethnically diverse area

Racially and ethnically diverse areas shall mean counties where the non-white population is forty percent or more or the service area of an agency, corporation, facility or individual providing substance use disorder services where the non-white population of said area is forty percent or more.

Definition: Provider of services

Provider of services shall mean any agency, corporation, facility or individual providing substance use disorder services to vulnerable populations.

Definition: Treatment disparities

Treatment disparities shall mean measurable differences in access to and quality of substance use disorder services as determined by race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status, age and socioeconomic status.



Definition: Treatment equity

Treatment equity shall mean achieving the highest level of substance use disorder services for all people and shall entail focused efforts to address avoidable inequalities by equalizing those conditions for substance use disorder services for those that have experienced injustices and socioeconomic disadvantages.



Powers and Duties

Work collaboratively with relevant state agencies, local governmental units as defined in article forty-one of this chapter and other affected stakeholders, including, but not limited to, providers to and representatives of vulnerable populations, in order to set priorities to achieve treatment equity in both racial and ethnically diverse areas and for vulnerable populations throughout the state

Powers and Duties

Analyze collected data to determine the causes of treatment disparities in both racially and ethnically diverse areas and for vulnerable populations throughout the state, including any economic, physical, social or cultural barriers;

Powers and Duties

Develop and implement strategies aimed at achieving treatment equity in racially and ethnically diverse areas and among vulnerable populations

Powers and Duties

Promote community involvement by conducting promotional and educational outreach programs regarding substance use disorders and available services;

Powers and Duties

Review the impact of current laws, rules, regulations, policies and programs that may be affecting the ability to achieve treatment equity

OASAS. Every Step of the Way.



**Office of Addiction
Services and Supports**